

on the Hefley amendment. Please let the record reflect how I would have voted.

TRIBUTE TO MSGT BENJAMIN R.
McCLELLAN

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2004

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to pay tribute to Master Sergeant Benjamin R. McClellan upon his retirement from the United States Air Force.

MSGT McClellan has served our Nation with honor and distinction for over 20 years, and his performance throughout his career has been characterized by the highest standards of professional ethics and commitment. He entered into the United States Air Force in December of 1983, and attended his basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, TX. He has served our country in many capacities through the years but has finished his career as the NCOIC of Wing Protocol for the 509th Bomb Wing at Whiteman Air Force Base, MO.

MSGT Benjamin McClellan graduated summa cum laude from Friends University in Wichita, KS, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Organizational Management and Leadership. He is currently completing his Masters of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix, Kansas City, MO.

MSGT McClellan's awards include the Air Force Meritorious Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Good Conduct Medal with five oak leaf clusters, the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal.

Mr. Speaker, I am certain that my colleagues will join me in wishing MSGT McClellan all the best. We thank him for over 20 years of service to the United States of America.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GRUNDY COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT FAIR

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2004

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize both the 100th anniversary of the Grundy County Agricultural District Fair held each year near Morris, Illinois as well as the local agriculture community which has so strongly supported the Fair over the decades.

Founded in 1904 in the Village of Mazon, Illinois on the southern end of Grundy County, the Fair originally featured horse shows, baseball games and dinners served by the Mazon Congregational Church.

The Fair grew rapidly in popularity and soon became the center of entertainment for everyone in Grundy County with horse races, livestock shows, good food, dancing, talent shows and many types of plain, wholesome family fun.

As the years went by, automobile racing gradually supplanted the traditional horse races, especially with the advent of Midget auto racing which became very popular during the late 1930's and continues to this day. Auto race tracks grew larger and replaced horse racing tracks. Eventually, the Fair outgrew its Mazon, Illinois site and moved to its present location north of the City of Morris, Illinois where the Grundy County Speedway, a one-third mile paved oval track became part of the fairgrounds.

A century later, along with the auto racing, the Grundy County Agricultural District Fair still retains its agriculture and family oriented emphasis. Beef and dairy cattle, sheep, swine, rabbits and poultry along with field crops, fruit and vegetables still combine with country music, carnival rides and even the Miss Grundy County Fair Pageant to provide outstanding family entertainment.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, let me pay tribute to the generations of farm families, hard-working Fair Department Superintendents, dedicated County Fair Board members and outstanding volunteers who have built and nourished the Grundy County Agricultural District Fair through the past century. Their commitment has truly provided the Grundy County community with a century of wonderful family entertainment.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GORDON
HILL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I solemnly rise today to pay tribute to the life and memory of Gordon Hill of Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Recently, Gordon passed away at the age of eighty-seven. He will be remembered for his dedication and service to our country as an officer during World War II, and as an employee at the Bureau of Reclamation. As his family and friends mourn his passing I would like to recognize his life and accomplishments before this body of Congress and this nation today.

Gordon was born and spent much of his childhood in cities along Colorado's Front Range. After receiving a civil and irrigation engineering degree from Colorado A&M College, he went to work for the Tennessee Valley Authority. During the Second World War, he bravely answered his nation's call to serve and joined the United States Navy as an officer in the Civil Engineering Corps where he served in the Pacific Theatre. After the war, Gordon remained in the military as a member of the reserve corps.

After the war, Gordon began his work for the United States Bureau of Reclamation until his retirement in 1973. During his years at the Bureau, he held positions as a project planner, a construction supervisor and contract administrator. Working and living in several different towns throughout Colorado, Gordon provided leadership on the Colorado-Big Thompson dam and Ruedi dam projects. Gordon had a very large and loving family including several children, numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Upon his retirement, he moved to Glenwood Springs, which provided opportunity to be close to much of his family and a

nice environment for him to pursue his seasonal outdoor activities. These hobbies included: golf, hunting, skiing, gardening, fishing and swimming.

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to share with you the legacy of Gordon Hill. His love for his family, his country, and the outdoors were all apparent, in his life and his deeds. He was a dedicated servant toward the betterment of this nation, and I ask my colleagues to join me in sending my condolences to Gordon's family and friends.

HONORING SANDRA FELDMAN ON
HER RETIREMENT FROM THE
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF
TEACHERS

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 13, 2004

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution honoring Ms. Sandra Feldman upon her retirement from the presidency of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT). She is stepping down from this position at the AFT's annual convention later this week. Ms. Feldman has been a tireless advocate for improving the quality of teaching in our schools.

Ms. Feldman was born in New York City and is a product of its public schools. She is a former 2nd and 3rd grade teacher at PS 34 in Manhattan. She began her career advocating for children and better learning outcomes during the 1960's civil rights movement. Ms. Feldman was elected to the presidency of the United Federation of Teachers, the New York City affiliate of the AFT, in 1986. She subsequently was elected to the presidency of the AFT in 1997.

Ms. Feldman has brought this diverse background and her valuable experiences together to be a force for education reform. Ms. Feldman's leadership at both the UFT and AFT helped define national education reform efforts as they developed and grew in the 1980s and 1990s. Her work helped shape the standards movement and brought accountability for results back to education.

Ms. Feldman is probably best identified as being a stalwart champion of increased teacher quality. Better than anyone, Ms. Feldman knows the importance of a highly qualified teacher, especially for the most disadvantaged children. While improving the working conditions and benefits of her membership, she also asked for better results and higher qualifications. A well qualified teacher is the most important element in a successful learning experience. Sandra Feldman's leadership at AFT has only reinforced this important fact.

Despite her retirement, I am confident that her services will continue to be sought after on numerous panels and task forces to improve educational outcomes. Very simply, her service to both her membership and the children of America has been immeasurable.

The resolution I am introducing today honors Sandra Feldman on her retirement from the presidency of AFT. Despite her leaving this position, I am confident that her expertise and skill will continue to positively impact teaching and learning for years to come.